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April 17, 2002 LB 1062, 1218

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Baker, to open on AM3475 to LB 1062.

SENATOR BAKER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members of the body. This amendment was actually LB 1218, and you may have some questions on some of this from constituents so we...we'll try and go through it. It's not...not at all complicated, but it was LB 1218. Came out of the Judiciary Committee 8 to 0, no opposition testimony. Was a Speaker priority bill and it...it...granted, it's kind of a clean-up situation here. But what the amendment does is it gets the state of Nebraska into compliance with federal regulations. We've gone through a process of, employers have, of having to file this...the new hire registration form. That's been in place a number of years, this new hire registry, and what they do is they use this new hire registry to see if people are subject to child support payments and so on, et cetera, and issues like that. Well, now comes the next step and actually this has been an effective...we were...federal regulations became effective in 2001 that required each state to have this national medical support notice now. It's a follow-up to the new hire registry. The national medical support notice simply puts that employer on notice that their employee is subject to a divorce decree, a situation where they are the noncustodial parent but subject to providing health insurance to a dependent child. So this notice goes to the employer, states that their employee is subject to a child support order and that if health insurance coverage is offered through the employer that they must enroll this employee and their dependent children in the employer's health insurance plan. So you may get some questions on this. It will be a form that goes out to employers. We've worked with various business people and we have this all worked out, no problems with it. As I said, it came out of Judiciary eight to nothing, there was no opposition, and it simply puts us in line with the federal regulations requiring that we have a national medical support notice sent out to employers when they have an employee subject to child support. That is as complicated as I can make it, sir. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Baker. You've heard the opening on the Baker amendment, AM3475, to LB 1062. Open for discussion. Senator Baker, there are no lights wishing to